

Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 AID-05 L-02 USIA-06 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3076

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EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CI, PFOR, US, SCUL
SUBJ: ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL

REF: SANTIAGO 1218

1. FATHER DONOSO TOLD US APRIL 26 THAT THERE WAS "NOTHING NEW" IN ST. GEORGE'S SITUATION. LAST MEETING WITH "MEDIATOR" JULIO PHILIPPI WAS END OF FEBRUARY, AND HOLY CROSS HAS NOT HEARD FROM HIM SINCE. NEW GOC DELEGATE PROMISED BY PINOCHET FEB. 10 (SANTIAGO 902) HAS NOT MATERIALIZED, AND COMANDANTE VERDUGO IS STILL RUNNING THE SCHOOL.

2. DONOSO SAID THAT HE HAS NOW CONCLUDED THAT PHILIPPI "MEDIATION" IS JUST ONE MORE GOC STALING TACTIC. HE PLANS TO RECOMMEND TO HIS SUPERIORS IN U.S. THAT HOLY CROSS SEEK LEGAL REMEDY IN CHILEAN COURTS ("A PROCESS THAT COULD TAKE YEARS"). DONOSO ALSO SAID HE WILL URGE HIS SUPERIORS TO CONSIDER ONCE AGAIN WHETHER TIME IS APPROPRIATE TO REQUEST FORMAL USG INTERVENTION.

3. COMMENT: IN A MARKED CONTRAST TO ATTITUDE OF A FEW MONTHS AGO, WE DETECT, AT LEAST IN DONOSO, A LESS MILITANT ATTITUDE ON PART OF HOLY CROSS RE ST. GEORGES, A POINT DONOSO TACITLY ACKNOWLEDGED. THIS DOES NOT MEAN CONGREGATION HAS ABANDONED HOPE OF EVENTUALLY RECOVERING SCHOOL, BUT ONLY THAT, FOR MOMENT AT LEAST, HOLY CROSS IS NOT PUSHING ISSUE AS FORCEFULLY AS IT WAS. FACT THAT

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SCHOOL YEAR IS NOW WELL UNDERWAY, WITH GOC STILL IN CHARGE

OF SCHOOL, MAY BE A FACTOR. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE IMPRESSION
THAT CARDINAL SILVA HAS SHOWN DISTINCT LACK OF ENTHUSIASM
FOR CONFRONTING GOC ON THIS ISSUE.

POPPER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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